

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action dated September 10, 2008.

Claims 1-7, 9-13, 15-30 and 32-40 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 102 as being allegedly anticipated by Kim (US 20010022643; 6,774,967). This Section 102 rejection is suspect in our view. In particular, it is believed that the Examiner has misinterpreted and/or overlooked the word “each” in claim 1.

Claim 1 requires that “*the aperture section and the protrusion section are bent in such a manner that sides of the aperture section and sides of the protrusion section each extend in directions which respectively form about 45° with a long side and a short side of the display region, and wherein bent parts of the aperture section and bent parts of the protrusion section are discontinuous*, wherein the bent parts of the protrusion section are located in regions corresponding to solid portions of the electrodes, and wherein the protrusion section comprises at least two protrusions in a given pixel, wherein the bent part of each of said two protrusions in the pixel is discontinuous.” For example and without limitation, Fig. 2 of the instant application illustrates that the aperture section (slits) 12a and the protrusion section 23 are bent in such a manner that sides of the aperture section 12a and sides of the protrusion section 23 each extend in directions which respectively form about 45° with a long side and a short side of the display region, and that bent parts of the aperture section 12a and bent parts of the protrusion section 23 are discontinuous. The protrusion section 23 in Fig. 2 comprises at least two protrusions 23 in the illustrated pixel, and the bent part of each of said two protrusions 23 in the pixel is discontinuous.

The Examiner contends on page 7 of the Office Action that the claim reads on any pixel that includes two spaced apart V-shaped protrusions. This allegation is incorrect in our view.

MIYACHI
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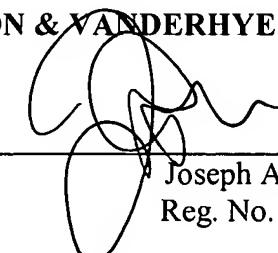
The word “each” in claim 1 prevents the Examiner from asserting that the claim reads on the two spaced apart protrusions of Kim’s Fig. 14. Fig. 14 of Kim 1 (US 20010022643; 6,774,967) illustrates slits 51 and protrusions 53. However, each of the protrusions 53 is continuous (not “discontinuous” as required by claim 1). Fig. 14 of Kim does not have a slit or aperture at the apex of either protrusion 53, so they are both continuous at the bent portion which is the opposite of what claim 1 calls for. The protrusion section in a pixel of Kim does not include “at least two protrusions in a given pixel, wherein the bent part of **each** of said two protrusions in the pixel is discontinuous” as required by claim 1. Claim 1 defines over the cited art for at least the above-recited reasons.

Claim 24 defines over the cited art in a similar manner.

It is respectfully requested that all rejections be withdrawn. All claims are in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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